

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2153 - SB 2406

February 21, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to provide an online computer science course in which public school students across the state may enroll at no charge. Requires DOE to provide, at no charge to educators, a computer science education professional development program that results in an endorsement for computer science education. Establishes certain computer science requirements for students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12). Requires DOE to develop and submit academic standards for computer science education that must be included in the computer science curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) to the State Board of Education (SBE) by the 2023-24 school year. Requires SBE to approve appropriate computer science courses that local education agencies (LEAs) and public charter schools may offer to students by the 2024-25 school year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$1,266,300/FY23-24
\$1,264,800/FY24-25 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation supports and promotes STEM education already in development with the Future Workforce Initiative using federal grant funding.
- In FY21-22, DOE awarded \$10,000,000 in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to the TN STEM Innovation Network to create a comprehensive and wholistic statewide computer science initiative combining the expertise and relationships already in place through DOE and the TN STEM Innovation Network.
- This funding stream will sustain programs and supports created in FY22-23 through one-time ESSER fund computer science expansion funding awarded in FY21-22.
- The ESSER funding has already been deployed to create a comprehensive and wholistic statewide computer science initiative combining the expertise and relationships already in place through DOE and the TN STEM innovation Network.
- This ESSER funding has been allocated to create a series of supports and programming for LEAs by June 30, 2023.
- The proposed legislation will require DOE to develop:
 - Statewide computer science courses accessible for all students;
 - Computer science standards to support computer instruction in grades K-12;

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- Free computer science resources and materials for grades K-12;
- Free computer science professional development for educators in grades K-12 that results in computer science micro credentials; and
- A computer science education network that may be integrated into the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) school designation and Tennessee STEM Innovation Network regional hubs.
- The development and sustainability costs related to proposed computer science initiatives are estimated as follows:
 - \$45,000 for the continuation of the computer science micro credential that leads to endorsement, which includes 80 hours of learning and platform hosting for the K-12 micro credentials at no cost to schools or teachers;
 - \$130,000 for review team sustainability, including 15 review team members and an on-going engagement window for teachers;
 - \$350,000 for an online computer science course for students, site maintenance, and reporting;
 - \$15,000 for maintenance of computer science instructional materials, updating lesson concepts, and technical assistance for LEAs
 - \$130,000 for continued professional computer science development for educators in grades K-12;
 - \$50,000 for the Computer Science Innovative Leaders Institute, the annual professional learning program for school and district-level leaders;
 - \$10,000 for a virtual professional development library that districts can access on demand;
 - \$5,000 Computer Science Statewide Community Network - Overarching website housing all computer science related materials/supports and linked through the Best for All and TSIN websites for multiple entry points
 - \$15,000 for communications and outreach; and
 - \$300,000 for the annual Computer Science Summit which convenes for three days in the summer to bring together educators, leaders, industry professionals, and policy makers.
- The development and sustainability costs are estimated to increase state expenditures \$1,050,000 in FY23-24 and subsequent years (\$45,000, + \$130,000, + \$350,000 + \$15,000 + \$130,000 + \$50,000 + \$10,000 + \$5,000 + \$15,000 + \$300,000).
- DOE will require two additional Education Consultant 3 positions to manage the program beginning in FY23-24.
- There will be a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$194,756 [(\$77,568 salary + \$19,810 benefits) x 2 Education Consultant 3 positions] in FY23-24 subsequent years.
- Travel costs are estimated to be \$10,000 per year for each Education Consultant 3 for annual total of \$20,000 (\$10,000 x 2).
- Two additional full-time employees will increase state expenditures \$214,756 in FY23-24 and subsequent years (\$194,756 + \$20,000).
- It is estimate that SBE will be required to contract with one subject matter expert to review the materials for alignment to standards and make a recommendation to SBE for a one-time cost of \$1,500 in FY23-24.

- The total increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$1,266,256 in FY23-24 (\$1,050,000 + \$214,756 + \$1,500) and \$1,264,756 in FY24-25 and subsequent years (\$1,050,000 + \$214,756).
- Any impact to local government is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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